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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number   | 09/509,302             |       |
|   | Filing Date          | June 2, 2000           |       |
|   | First Named Inventor | Stuart Edmund Blacket  |       |
|   | Art Unit             | 3726                   |       |
|   | Examiner Name        | Jermie Cozart          |       |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 3                    | Attorney Docket Number | P5742 |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)   |   |   |
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| <div>Remarks</div> <div>Statement of Substance of Interview - 37 CFR 1.133(b)</div> <div><b>RECEIVED</b><br/>APR 21 2004<br/>TC 1700<br/><b>RECEIVED</b><br/>APR 28 2004<br/>TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700</div>   |   |   |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT  |   |   |
| Firm or Individual name   | R. Blake Johnston<br>Reg. No. 41,097  |   |
| Signature   |   |   |
| Date  | March 22, 2004  |   |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING   |                   |      |                |
|---|-------------------|------|----------------|
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Blacket )  
Serial No.: 09/509,302 )  
Filed: June 2, 2000 )  
For: SHEET JOINING METHOD )  
AND APPARATUS AND A RIVET )  
FOR USE IN THE METHOD )  
Examiner: J. Cozart  
Group Art Unit: 3726

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**STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW - 37 CFR 1.133(b)**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Interview Summary dated March 15, 2004, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.133(b), Applicant provides the following statement of the substance of the interview held in the above case on March 11, 2004, by Applicant's undersigned counsel with Examiner Jermie Cozart.

The undersigned counsel for Applicant argued that U.S. Patent No. 5,051,020 to Schleicher does not disclose with respect to claims 17 and 22 "deforming all the sheets out of their planes in the annular recess" located immediately adjacent the cavity. In response, the Examiner stated that Schleicher does disclose in Figures 31-34 deforming sheets out of their planes. The Examiner elaborated that Schleicher discloses dies (282, 284) wherein each die has a cavity. The Examiner stated that die 284 has a cavity for accommodating translation of the

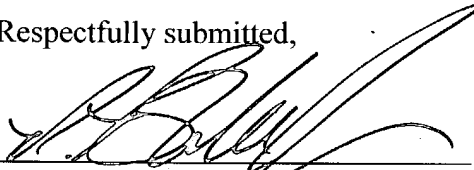
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punch (298) and die 282 has a cavity for receiving the punch and the portions of the sheet panels. The Examiner stated that immediately adjacent to the cavity of each respective die (282, 284) there is an annular recess into which each of the sheets is deformed. Therefore, the Examiner argued, Schleicher does disclose "deforming all the sheets out of their planes in the annular recess." The undersigned counsel also proposed adding new limitations to claims 17 and 22 to further define the location of the annular recess with respect to the die cavity. The Examiner stated that the addition of new limitations after a final rejection would require further search and consideration.

A response to the outstanding Office Action and a Request for Continued Examination were filed on March 16, 2004.

Applicant appreciates the time and courtesy extended by Examiner Cozart during the interview.

Respectfully submitted,

  
R. Blake Johnston  
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3/22/04

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